

BLOFIELD & FLEGG
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT
of the
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
including the report of the Senior Public Health Inspector
for the
YEAR 1970

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE 1970

Chairman - Councillor Mrs. A. H. SANDERSON

Vice-Chairman - Councillor Dr. C. FLETCHER

Councillors :

Sir P. I. H. BENN
Mrs. M. CHAPMAN
Mr. L. W. M. DE CAUX
Mr. R. J. DINES
Mr. F. P. EATON
Mr. G. T. B. FOWLER
Mr. E. GANDER
Mr. R. GROAT
Mrs. R. HIGH
Mrs. H. C. HUNN

Mr. J. U. KING
Mr. J. KIRKLAND
Mr. J. LAITY
Mr. D. J. R. LEADBEATER
Mr. L. S. LUFF
Mr. S. B. NICKERSON
Mr. L. OLDFIELD
Mr. G. E. TUBBY (*Chairman of the Council*)
Mr. C. P. WATSON (*Vice-Chairman of the Council*)
Mr. J. R. C. WILEY

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT 1970

Medical Officer of Health:

DR. G. R. HOLTBY, M.D., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., D.I.H.

Senior Public Health Inspector:

G. A. WEBB M.A.P.H.I.

Deputy Senior Public Health Inspector:

H. R. C. STRANGE M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Inspectors:

G. H. ALLISON A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

B. D. WILDMAN M.A.P.H.I.

D. GOODLEY M.A.P.H.I.

Senior Clerk:

Mr. B. A. J. MUNRO

Junior Clerk:

Miss D. TURNER (to 4th July)

Miss D. E. MOORE (from 6th July)

Council Offices,
Acle,
Norwich
NOR 61Z.

TO: The Chairman and Members of the
Blofield and Flegg Rural District
Council.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report for the year 1970. The Registrar General estimates the mid-year population as 44,360 compared with 43,410 last year. There were 609 live births and 571 deaths giving a natural increase of 38. There was thus a movement into the district of 912 people.

The standardised birth rate was 16.0 per thousand population and the death rate 11.7. There were 609 live births of which 5.09% were illegitimate. There were eight deaths under the age of four weeks and a total of twelve under one year. The infant mortality rate was 20.0 per thousand live births.

There were no maternal deaths associated with childbirth.

It has been the practice for some years to draw attention, in the introduction to the Annual Report, to some items of general public health interest. As so much has already been written so many times about the dangers of cigarette smoking, little space - much less than it deserves - will be devoted to this topic, on this occasion. It must suffice to state that the British lung cancer rate remains higher than that of all other English speaking countries, and this may be due to our cigarettes having a higher tar and nicotine content.

Those who continue to smoke despite the evidence, should smoke less, take fewer puffs, use only the first half, and inhale as little as possible. In the U.S.A. it has been shown that those who had smoked filter cigarettes for ten years or more had only about 60% of the lung cancer rate of those who continued to smoke plain cigarettes, although both rates were much higher than that of non-smokers.

The greater liability to coronary artery disease associated with cigarette smoking is an acute risk, for stopping smoking promptly reduces the liability to that of non-smokers. All the more reason to stop smoking! One cannot say "The damage has already been done."

Has not the time come when in public transport such as trains, at least as many compartments should be provided for non-smokers as for smokers, instead of the present small proportion? We now know that smoking is pathological in its effects. Should there be more provision for the pathological than for the healthy? In hospital yes, but surely not in railway carriages!

We are not particularly prone to food poisoning in this District but there are special risks in the summer time because of the big influx of holiday makers.

It is necessary to define what one means by food poisoning as there is a good deal of misapprehension about the subject. Diarrhoea and vomiting caused by eating, for example, poisonous fungi, or food stewed in a galvanised pan, or potatoes with green buds on them, could be described as food poisoning, but an "allergic" type of rash brought on by the eating of shell fish, etc., should not, by itself, be described as food poisoning. In practice food poisoning means the eating of food infected with one of three groups of bacteria or their toxins. The salmonellae are the most important group with a great many different types (which might be looked on perhaps as sub-species). The nomenclature is confusing in that the commonest germ to cause salmonellosis is *Salmonella typhimurium*, too similar in name to *Salmonella typhi*, which causes the much more serious condition of typhoid fever.

The possibilities of infections of food are very numerous, starting as they do in agricultural fertilizers, imported food stuffs for stock animals as well as some imported food for humans, and extending from the farm, through the abattoir and the shop, to the kitchen and the consumer.

There is not usually much spread of germs on the farm but young animals herded together on the way to the farm are under physical and emotional stress which favour spread.

At the abattoir the risk of infection of meat is considerable but provided it is properly stored, properly cooked and eaten soon after cooking, there should be no infection of humans. If, however, meat is stored at room temperature the germs have a chance to multiply and if it is inadequately cooked they may not be killed. Frozen poultry is particularly liable to be under-cooked, unless it is thoroughly thawed out before cooking.

The danger of infection of cooked meat by raw meat is often not realised. Infection can occur in a refrigerator if raw meat drips down to a lower compartment and is very liable to occur if knives are used for both raw and cooked poultry and other meat, or if hands are not washed between drawing the birds and handling the cooked products.

As well as cattle, pigs and poultry, rats and mice and many other small animals, can suffer from, and become carriers of, types of salmonella pathogenic to man, and flies can also spread them. The implications are obvious.

Canned pet food is likely to be safe but other kinds may be infected and infection can spread not only from a pet to its owner but from a pet's food to its owner's food.

Shell fish such as mussels may be infected and so may artificial cream. This is not cooked and, therefore, any infection in it is not killed.

Salmonellae are not killed by freezing but their growth is inhibited. They do not multiply in a refrigerator. They are killed by adequate heat and by some chemicals, e.g. chlorine or potassium permanganate solution for washing lettuce leaves. Gamma radiation of foodstuffs is also a useful method of sterilisation.

The other two groups of food poisoning germs are staphylococci, found on the hands and noses of 20 to 50% of normal people and in cuts and other septic lesions, and clostridia. In the case of staphylococci it is a toxin not the germs themselves which is responsible for the symptoms of which vomiting is a marked feature. *Clostridium welchii* is a soil organism which colonizes the intestine of many animals including man. If spores of the germ are in meat which is allowed to cool gradually (instead of rapidly and then kept in a refrigerator) the spores will germinate to produce more bacilli and also toxin and the two together may cause food poisoning characterised by diarrhoea and especially by abdominal pain.

From what has been said already it may be obvious, but if not it should be stated, that while food should not be eaten if it is obviously unsound, infected food may not differ in smell or taste from sound food.

Cases and carriers of infection, both in the bowel, usually a salmonella infection, and also in the nose and in septic lesions, are obvious dangers throughout the long chain of infection. Cases of diarrhoea and vomiting must be excluded from food handling but it is not realised widely enough that carriers cannot be rendered safe by repeated courses of antibiotics. On the contrary, there is good evidence to show that such treatment will prolong rather than shorten the carrier state and should not be carried out.

It should not be supposed that every case of diarrhoea and vomiting is due to recognisable food poisoning germs, in fact, many such cases are due to respiratory rather than alimentary infection, but undoubtedly far more food poisoning occurs than should occur, or would occur if the rules of hygiene were universally observed.

There was an increase of staff in September 1970 by one more Public Health Inspector. This will allow more time to be devoted to routine inspections than has been possible in the past and will help us to cope with the ever-increasing work of the Department.

I should like to take this opportunity of again expressing my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for their interest and support and the staff of the Department for their painstaking work throughout the year. I consider myself very fortunate in both these important features of any Public Health work and gladly acknowledge this to be so.

I remain, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

G.R. HOLTBY

Medical Officer of Health

SECTION 'A'

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Area - (in acres) 74,531. There are 33 parishes within the area which has its administrative centre at Acle. The major portion of the District is rural in character. Agriculture and Dairy Farming being the main industry. The District is a very popular summer resort catering for many thousands of visitors during the holiday season, the numbers increasing each year; it includes a large area of the Broads and many miles of pleasant inland waterways. Some of the best beaches in the country are to be found on its eight miles of coastline which extends from the boundary of Great Yarmouth northwards to Horsey.

Population - The Registrar General has estimated the population for the mid-year 1970 as 44,360 giving a population density of approximately .58 per acre.

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS

Area in acres	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	74,531
Population (Registrar-General mid-June estimate)	...							44,360
No. of Inhabited Houses (1970) according to Ratebook	...							16,839
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£1,426,222
Estimated Net Produce of 1p Rate	...	...	...	...				£14,200

LIVE BIRTHS

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	298	280	578
Illegitimate	14	17	31
	<u>312</u>	<u>297</u>	<u>609</u>

Live Birth Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population:-

Blofield and Flegg R.D.	Crude Birth Rate	.. 13.7
	Standard Birth Rate	.. 17.0
England and Wales	Standard Birth Rate	.. 16.0

STILL BIRTHS

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	5	3	8
Illegitimate	-	-	-
	<u>5</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>8</u>

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total live and still births:-

Blofield and Flegg R.D.	.. ..	.. 13.0
England and Wales	.. ..	.. 13.0
Total live and still births	.. ..	.. 617

INFANT MORTALITY (Death of infants under one year)

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	8	4	12
Illegitimate	-	-	-
	<u>8</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>12</u>

Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births:-

Blofield and Flegg R.D.	.. ..	.. 20.0
England and Wales	.. ..	.. 18.0

Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births:-

Blofield and Flegg R.D.:	Legitimate	.. ..	20.0
	Illegitimate	.. ..	-

Infant Mortality - Neo Natal (first four weeks)

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	5	3	8
Illegitimate	-	-	-
	<u>5</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>8</u>

Neo-Natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births) 13.0

Early neo-natal mortality rate (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births) 10.0

Peri-natal mortality rate (still births and deaths of infants under one week of age) 23.0

Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births 5.09

MATERNAL MORTALITY

Deaths associated with pregnancy, childbirth or abortion None

Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 live and still births .. Nil

DEATHS (all causes)

<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
284	287	571

Death rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population:-

Blofield and Flegg R.D.	Crude Death Rate	12.9
	Standard Death Rate	9.5
England and Wales	Standard Death Rate	11.7

BIRTH RATE, DEATH RATE AND INFANT MORTALITY RATE

	<u>England and Wales</u>	<u>Blofield & Flegg R.D. (Standard Rates)</u>
<u>Births</u>	<u>Rates per 1,000 Population</u>	
Live Births	16.0	17.0
Still Births	13.0	13.0
<u>Deaths</u>		
All causes (excluding Still Births)	11.7	9.5
<u>Infant Mortality</u>		
All causes under 1 year	18.0	20.0
Peri-natal mortality	23.0	23.0
Neo-natal mortality rate	12.0	13.0

Deaths from Cancer and Total Deaths

	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970
No. of deaths from Cancer	26	68	89	96	94	98
No. of deaths all causes	599	556	557	617	568	571
% of total deaths due to Cancer	14.4	12.2	16.0	15.6	16.54	17.0

Cancer Deaths during last 6 years

	<u>Male</u>			<u>Female</u>		
Year	Total Deaths	Lung Cancer	Other Cancers	Total Deaths	Lung Cancer	Other Cancers
1970	284	18	31	287	4	45
1969	256	18	30	312	3	43
1968	287	24	33	330	2	37
1967	269	17	27	288	4	41
1966	255	19	20	301	-	29
1965	300	18	33	299	2	33

Deaths from Coronary Disease

	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970
No. of deaths from Coronary disease	112	76	87	169	139	152
No. of deaths all causes	599	566	557	617	568	571
% of total deaths due to Coronary disease	18.7	13.6	15.6	25.8	24.47	26.6

Deaths from Coronary disease during last 6 years

	<u>Male</u>		<u>Female</u>	
Year	Total Deaths	Coronary-Angina	Total Deaths	Coronary-Angina
1970	284	95	287	57
1969	256	67	312	72
1968	287	79	330	90
1967	269	46	288	41
1966	255	40	301	36
1965	300	75	299	37

Individual Causes of Death

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
B4 Enteritis and other Diarrhoeal Diseases	2	-	2
B5 Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	1	-	1
B18 Other infective and parasitic Diseases	1	-	1
B19(1) Malignant Neoplasm, Buccal Cavity etc.	2	2	4
B19(2) Malignant Neoplasm, Oesophagus	-	1	1
B19(3) Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	7	4	11
B19(4) Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine	3	6	9
B19(5) Malignant Neoplasm, Larynx	1	1	2
B19(6) Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	18	4	22
B19(7) Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	-	8	8
B19(8) Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	-	6	6
B19(9) Malignant Neoplasm, Prostate	5	-	5
B19(10) Leukaemia	1	3	4
B19(11) Other Malignant Neoplasms	11	14	25
B20 Benign and Unspecified Neoplasms	1	-	1
B21 Diabetes Mellitus	2	3	5
B46(1) Other Endocrine etc. Diseases	2	1	3
B23 Anaemias	2	-	2
B46(3) Mental Disorders	4	17	21
B24 Meningitis	1	-	1
B46(4) Multiple Sclerosis	-	2	2
B46(5) Other Diseases of Nervous System	2	2	4
B26 Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	1	1	2
B27 Hypertensive Diseases	1	3	4
B28 Ischaemic Heart Disease	95	57	152
B29 Other Forms of Heart Disease	22	19	41
B30 Cerebrovascular Disease	29	46	75
B46(6) Other Diseases of Circulatory System	8	17	25
B31 Influenza	9	6	15
B32 Pneumonia	20	36	56
B33(1) Bronchitis and Emphysema	8	5	13
B46(7) Other Diseases of Respiratory System	2	2	4
B34 Peptic Ulcer	1	-	1
B36 Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia	5	-	5
B37 Cirrhosis of Liver	2	1	3
B46(8) Other Diseases of Digestive System	3	4	7
B38 Nephritis and Nephrosis	1	-	1
B46(9) Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System.	-	1	1
B46(10) Diseases of Skin, Subcutaneous Tissue	-	1	1
B46(11) Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal System	-	3	3
B42 Congenital Anomalies	4	2	6
B43 Birth Injury, Difficult Labour, etc.	-	1	1
B44 Other Causes of Perinatal Mortality	2	1	3
B45 Symptoms and Ill Defined Conditions	-	1	1
BE47 Motor Vehicle Accidents	3	1	4
BE48 All other accidents	2	5	7
<u>TOTAL ALL CAUSES</u>	<u>284</u>	<u>287</u>	<u>571</u>

NOTIFICATIONS OF DEATHS RECEIVED DURING YEAR 1970 ACCORDING TO AGE GROUPS

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Under 4 weeks	5	3	8
4 weeks and under 1 year	3	1	4
1 - 4	-	1	1
5 - 14	3	-	3
15 - 24	5	1	6
25 - 34	3	1	4
35 - 44	2	5	7
45 - 54	14	19	33
55 - 64	38	31	69
65 - 74	79	61	140
75 and over	132	164	296
	<u>284</u>	<u>287</u>	<u>571</u>

<u>INFANT MORTALITY (Under one year)</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Congenital heart disease	2	-	2
Anomalous pulmonary venous drainage	-	1	1
Respiratory distress syndrome; cerebral haemorrhage; prematurity	-	1	1
Uraemia; severe dehydration; gastro-enteritis of undetermined infection	1	-	1
Inhalation of vomit; diarrhoea and vomiting	1	-	1
Pneumonia; congenital absence of right ribs; meningomyelocele; urinary tract infection	-	1	1
Developmental defect of heart	1	-	1
Diaphragmatic hernia	1	-	1
Prematurity	2	1	3
	<u>8</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>12</u>

In addition to the above, records kept in the Public Health Department show one other infant death. This was a female child who died from an acute respiratory infection (cot death).

This point has been taken up with the Registrar General's Office, but at the time of preparing this report it had not been resolved.

VITAL STATISTICS OF THE DISTRICT FOR 1970, AND
PREVIOUS YEARS COMPARATIVE TABLE WITH ENGLAND AND WALES FOR THE

PAST FIVE YEARS

	<u>1966</u>	<u>1967</u>	<u>1968</u>	<u>1969</u>	<u>1970</u>
<u>Live Birth Rate (Standardised)</u> <u>per 1,000 population</u>					
England and Wales	17.70	17.20	16.90	16.30	16.00
Blofield and Flegg R.D.	17.89	17.47	18.00	19.20	17.00
<u>Still Birth Rate 1,000 total</u> <u>(live and still) births</u>					
England and Wales	15.40	14.80	14.30	13.00	13.00
Blofield and Flegg R.D.	6.27	9.65	9.00	13.00	13.00
<u>Death Rate (Standardised)</u> <u>per 1,000 population</u>					
England and Wales	11.70	11.20	11.90	11.90	11.70
Blofield and Flegg R.D.	8.88	9.45	10.50	9.80	9.50
<u>Infant Mortality Rate per</u> <u>1,000 Live Births</u>					
England and Wales	19.0	18.30	18.30	18.00	18.00
Blofield and Flegg R.D.	12.64	14.56	13.49	15.00	18.00

SECTION 'B'

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF THE HEALTH SERVICES

Blofield and Flegg Rural District, together with Smallburgh Rural District and North Walsham Urban District, are combined to form No. 1 Area. The Norfolk County Council, acting under the National Health Service Act of 1946 and the National Assistance Act, 1948, provides the following services:-

Care of mothers and young children, Midwifery Service, Home Nursing, Vaccination and Immunisation, Prevention of Illness and Care and After Care of Sick Persons, Home Help Service, Mental Health Service and Welfare Service for the Aged.

Some details are given below.

NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT, 1946

Care of Mothers and Young Children

This includes the provision of Child Health Clinics to which mothers of young children can come for advice and help. Clinics are held at villages on the day stated and the Health Visitor is in attendance at each clinic from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. A Doctor attends all clinics where there is an average attendance of 25 or more.

Acle	Unionist Hall	Second Thursday each month.
Blofield	Margaret Harker Hall	Last Thursday each month.
Blofield Corner	Village Hall	Second Thursday each month.
Brundall	Memorial Hall	Last Thursday each month.
Caister	Parish Hall	Second and last Wednesday each month.
Cantley	Village Hall	Third Tuesday each month
Hemsby	The Institute	Third Thursday each month.
Lingwood	Recreation Hall	Third Thursday each month.
Lt. Plumstead	Mission Room	First Thursday each month.
Martham	Church Room	Second Thursday each month.
Ormesby	Church Hall	Second Friday each month.
Thorpe (1)	Roxley	Last Thursday each month.
Thorpe (2)	Shakespeare Memorial Baptist Church Hall Witard Road	Every Tuesday (Doctor attends Third and last Tuesday)

Other Treatment Centres are held weekly as follows:-

	Acle V.P. School	Caister Sec.Mod. School	Norwich <u>Aspland Road</u>	Thorpe Hillside <u>Avenue C.P. School</u>
Child Guidance Clinics	-	-	1	-
Dental Clinics	4	-	1	4
Speech Clinics	1	1	4	-

Vaccination and Immunisation

Inoculations performed by General Practitioners and Public Health Medical Officers during the year in Area No. 1 are shown in the following tables:-

Type of Vaccine	Year of Birth				1963-	Others	TOTAL
	1970	1969	1968	1967	1966	under 16	
<u>Completed Primary Courses</u>							
Triple (DTP)	118	593	115	3	7	-	836
Diph/Tet	-	1	1	-	25	1	28
Tetanus	1	-	-	-	11	9	21
Polio (Oral)	113	529	125	5	37	2	811
Measles	1	192	236	119	461	35	1044
Rubella	-	-	-	-	-	4	4

Reinforcing Doses

Triple (DTP)	-	8	119	16	52	4	199
Diph/Tet	-	-	8	12	850	56	926
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	3	-	3
Tetanus	-	-	-	3	25	467	495
Polio (Oral)	-	4	71	19	907	648	1649

Smallpox Vaccination

Age at date of vaccination	0-3 mths.	3-6 mths.	6-9 mths.	9-12 mths.	1yr.	2-4 yrs.	5-15 yrs.	TOTAL
Primary	-	3	7	22	365	108	28	533
Re-vaccination	-	-	-	-	2	8	63	73

B.C.G. Vaccination

This protection against tuberculosis is offered to all 13 year old school children. In Area No. 1, 87% of parents gave their consent, 9% refused and 4% did not return forms.

The findings during the year were as follows:-

Number eligible	-	1,053
Number tested	-	861
Number positive	-	72
Number vaccinated	-	745
Tuberculin Index	-	8%

Home Help Service

During 1970 the Home Help Service was mainly administered from the Area Local Health Office at Aspland Road, Norwich, and all applications addressed to the Area Welfare Officer at that office. The work of the Home Helps was supervised by one of the County Council's lady Home Help Organisers and this service continued to expand.

Ambulance Service

The County Ambulance Service is operated by the County Council through the agency of the Norfolk St. John's Ambulance Brigade and British Red Cross Society Joint Ambulance Committee.

General Welfare Services

These services are administered in the district by the Area Welfare Officer, Mr. C.J. Gallant, together with a team of three Social Welfare Officers. The contact point at Caister Parish Hall for use of the public in that area has been maintained throughout the year.

Welfare Officers maintain close co-operation with the Public Health and Housing Departments of the Council and as a result are able to assist with help and advice and general welfare services where these are required.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948

Welfare Services

The Welfare Officers deal with the admission of aged persons to County Homes for the Elderly, either on a short term or a long term basis and besides dealing with admissions to Mental Hospitals they are responsible for the care of the mentally sub-normal living in the community and also of patients discharged from or on leave from Mental Hospitals.

Old People's Clubs continue to function in almost all the parishes in the district and provide outings which take a great deal of loneliness and monotony out of old age.

The Meals-on-Wheels service continues to function in numerous parishes in the district. The Women's Royal Voluntary Service provide a service at Acle, Upton, Brundall, Blofield, Burlingham, Lingwood, Strumpshaw, Thorpe St. Andrew, Great and Little Plumstead, Hemsby and Ormesby. At Caister-on-Sea meals are provided by Toc H.

OTHER SERVICES

Laboratory Facilities

Facilities for Laboratory investigation are to be had at the Public Health Laboratory, Bowthorpe Road, Norwich.

National Assistance (1948) Act. Section 47

There were no cases where action had to be taken.

SECTION 'C'
WATER SUPPLY

Main Supplies

With the continued growth of population within the district, increased demands were made upon the Strumpshaw Headworks, and a total of 133,44 million gallons of water was supplied during 1970.

<u>Parish</u>	<u>No. of Dwellings connected</u>
Acle	525
Ashby with Oby	7
Beighton	113
Blofield	742
Brundall	958
Burlingham	440
Cantley	244
Freethorpe	180
Halvergate	130
Hemblington	83
Martham	607
Reedham	322
Repps	140
South Walsham	215
Strumpshaw	157
Thurne	44
Upton	186
Woodbastwick	45

39 Holiday chalets connected Martham Riverside) _ Not included in
52 Holiday chalets connected Repps Riverside) above figures.

Pathologically, the supply was at all times satisfactory, which was endorsed by regular bacteriological and chemical analyses which were taken throughout the year.

Private Supplies

Throughout the district numerous properties are still served by shallow wells and bores. Some improvement was effected during the year by the Council guaranteeing 3 extensions to existing mains to enable a piped supply to be available to a further 55 properties.

Sewerage

Good progress was made during the year with the provision of main sewerage for Acle. This scheme is anticipated to be completed during the third quarter of 1971 and will relieve nuisances within the village. It will also enable the connection of properties at present served by pail closets and help to reduce the nightsoil collection service.

Schemes for sewerage Strumpshaw and Lingwood and for extension in Thorpe to complete the Booty Road, Woodlands Crescent and Prior Road area were well advanced and progress should be very well marked during 1971. Lingwood has been developed in recent years and as time proceeds the nuisance from inadequate soakaways and overflowing cesspools becomes more acute. The Booty Road area of Thorpe is similarly developed and has given rise to complaints over many years. Although a relatively small contract, it is much needed.

Despite the continued progress in providing sewers, demand continues to build up in various areas and the villages of Fleggburgh, Filby, Rollesby, Reedham, Freethorpe and Plumstead are all in need of main drainage at the earliest possible moment.

Wet Refuse

There was a slight increase in the number of loads of wet refuse removed during 1970 from 789 to 810. Two vehicles, each with a crew of two men, were in use throughout the year. In addition, the parish of Reedham was collected by private contract.

Holiday chalets in the Marrams at Hemsby present the greatest problem to this service. Although only occupied during the summer months a twice weekly collection is required. The time and effort in traversing long distances over soft, sandy hills is considerable and it becomes more and more difficult to find men willing to carry out this task.

Disposal continues by tipping into a pit at Rollesby and by straw composting for agricultural use in the western part of the district.

Dry Refuse

A regular weekly collection is made throughout the district for the whole year despite the immense load imposed in the coastal and Broad's villages during the holiday season. The volume of material collected continues to rise owing to various factors, the main reasons being additional properties, increased use of packing materials, less use of open fires and an increase in non-returnable containers.

The service continued to operate with 10 separate rounds, with 3 additional vehicles for reserve and Broad's area collections. One continuous loading compression vehicle and two dual tips were provided as replacements during the year. The continuous loading vehicle was

brought/

Dry Refuse (Continued)

into operation in the coastal area and has relieved, temporarily, a difficulty caused by the continued growth of holiday accommodation. The time now appears imminent when a review of all the rounds is necessary but it would not appear opportune to do this if a work study scheme is to be implemented shortly. Such re-organisation and work study ought to be brought in simultaneously.

There was no change in the disposal arrangements from previous years but 10 acres of marshland were purchased at Caister and the existing tip extended to raise the level of this additional land by some 6 feet. The extension was commenced towards the end of the year and was operating successfully. The tips at Acle and Caister were reasonably well maintained but again difficulties were encountered with the Martham tip. Disposal continued in the privately owned tip at Strumpshaw but it was found that access in wet weather is impossible and the use of this site has had to be restricted to the summer months.

In December a new four-wheel drive tractor shovel was purchased. This will give more versatility and enable more work to be carried out in the future.

Late in the year a Feasibility Study was instigated by the Norwich City Council to ascertain the best method of refuse disposal for the City of Norwich and the immediately surrounding area. This Council agreed to contribute to the Study, which will include the Thorpe area.

It was gratifying to see the inception of a scheme for the collection of litter from the beaches in three of the four coastal parishes. This is operated jointly by the Rural District Council and the parishes concerned. Considerable improvement in the cleanliness of the beaches has been effected.

The amount of litter on lay-bys and highways within the district still gives cause for concern and in many cases gives the area an untidy and ill-kept appearance. Approaches have been made to the County Highways Authority with a view to improving this, but it is felt that some better type of litter receptacle would be an advantage.

Cesspool Emptying

A fall in the quantity of sewage removed from cesspools was recorded to 9,349,000 gallons. This is no doubt due to the Council's policy of continuing the sewerage of the district. Six vehicles are kept for this service and during the year one was renewed. The new vehicle was fitted with night soil attachment, anticipating that eventually the cesspool and wet refuse services will be integrated. Disposal of cesspool contents remained as in previous years. Pits at Buckenham, Somerton and Rollesby were in regular use and a small quantity was discharged into the sewer in the Caister area.

Cesspool Emptying (Continued)

The construction of the new Digester at Caister Sewage Works was completed during the year and when fully operational this should accept the contents of cesspools direct and enable the load on the present disposal pits to be reduced.

Public Conveniences

There are 12 blocks of conveniences situated throughout the district, 7 of which are positioned for holiday use on the coast. Two of these, one at Hemsby and one at Caister, were very old and extremely difficult to maintain in a sanitary condition. At the end of the holiday season the old block situated near the beach at Caister was demolished and a new convenience block was in course of construction ready for the 1971 holiday season. The conveniences in the Dunes at Hemsby are still retained but their life cannot long be extended, particularly as relatively modern conveniences are available close by.

During the year a scheme of priorities was established for the building of additional conveniences throughout the district and the construction of these will proceed as quickly as the economic position permits.

Moveable Dwellings

A relatively high standard was maintained on the caravan sites throughout the district. No doubt the very dry summer ~~made this easier~~ for the site operators.

The number of touring vans present in the area again showed a marked increase and it is becoming increasingly obvious that further sites for this type of holiday are required. As in previous years a count of caravans in the area was taken during early August and it was found that 4,872 vans were present with an estimated population of 14,600.

One person was successfully prosecuted for operating a site without a licence and was fined a total of £60 on three counts.

Tent Sites

At the annual count of caravans and tents it was found that there were 1,654 tents in the area. Most of these were situated on sites which operated only for a maximum of six weeks in the peak of the summer, thereby avoiding licencing and providing only the minimum of facilities. One licence to operate a tent site under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936 was granted during the year. This legislation would appear to be out-dated and it would be advantageous if the law could be brought more into line with that appertaining to caravans.

Swimming Pools

Excluding County Council schools, 12 swimming pools were in use during the year at various establishments within the district. 22 samples were taken from these and 9 were reported as below standard. When owners were informed of an unsatisfactory sample, action was quickly taken to improve the standard of the water. It is hoped that, with the addition of one Inspector to the staff, closer supervision of these pools will be possible in the future.

Meat Inspection

The one slaughterhouse within the district continued to operate with a fairly constant through-put (see Section 'D' of this report). It was again necessary for the Inspectors to work overtime but despite this 100% inspection was maintained.

As a result of the notification of Salmonella Typhimurium infection in a breeding herd of pigs within the district, investigations were carried out in conjunction with the Veterinary Investigation Centre of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, who controlled the live situation on the farm premises.

Pigs were received at the slaughterhouse during the course of the enquiry and post mortem specimens were collected from each animal for examination at the Veterinary Investigation Centre laboratory. Salmonella Typhimurium infection in this material was confirmed in 4 cases and the carcasses and offals were condemned.

The investigation was completed and the herd regarded as free from infection by the end of the year.

Milk

There were 91 distributors registered with the Council, an increase of six over the previous year.

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963

The total number of premises registered under the above Act by the 31st December, 1970 was 245. There were no applications for exemptions and no accidents were reported. The following table shows the number and type of premises registered:-

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963 (Continued)

<u>Type</u>	<u>Registered During the Year</u>	<u>Total at End of Year</u>	<u>No. Receiving General Inspection</u>
Offices	-	33	16
Retail Shops	1	162	81
Wholesale Shops and Warehouses	-	1	6
Catering Establishments and canteens	-	46	22
Fuel Storage Depots	-	3	-
	<u>1</u>	<u>245</u>	<u>119</u>

Food and Drugs Act, 1955

The number of premises registered for the storage and sale of ice-cream increased by 13 to 301. A further 14 were registered for the preparation and manufacture of preserved foods, giving a total of 315 registered under Section 16. All samples of ice-cream taken for bacteriological examination were Provisional Grade I. There is one ice-cream factory within the district and this continued to operate in a very satisfactory manner throughout the year.

During the latter part of the year a considerable amount of work was carried out investigating storage methods in retail premises in relation to date coded food-stuffs. It was most disturbing to find that many retailers operated no organised system of stock control and rotation or continued to over-stock. Most of the food shops within the district received a personal visit from a Public Health Inspector giving advice and checking stocks as far as possible. Many of the shopkeepers did not appreciate the significance of date codes on the products and approaches were made to seek the co-operation of manufacturers to meet the several problems. Work in connection with this was still continuing at the end of the year.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

Two operators were again fully employed on rodent control throughout 1970. 12,494 visits were made during the year, 9,862 of these to domestic premises. This represents a sizeable increase in the demand from business premises for the Council's service. No major infestations were found.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949 (Continued)

A request was received for the control of rats, mice and other pests, in particular cockroaches, at hospital premises within the district, previously served by commercial contracts. Treatments for rodent infestation were arranged as required although the nature of the construction and use of the premises present considerable problems for the operator. In regard to cockroaches, advice and practical assistance was given in conjunction with the Infestation Control Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food and it was possible to eradicate a heavy infestation largely associated with the kitchen area. Visits by the District Inspector are continuing and as a result of the advice which has been given a scheme of preventative maintenance, to be carried out by hospital staff, has been commenced.

Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960, 1962 and 1970

The general standard of hygiene in food premises in the district was good. It was unnecessary to resort to formal proceedings in any case.

The following table gives details of premises and the degree of compliance with the Regulations relating to hand washing facilities and facilities for washing food equipment as requested by the Department of Health and Social Security:-

Type of Premises	No.	No. complying with Reg.16	No. to which Reg.19 applies	No. complying with Reg.19
Bakers	4	4	4	4
Butchers	28	28	28	28
Cafes, hotels				
restaurants etc.	74	74	74	74
Confectioners	15	15	3	3
Grocers (inc. greengrocers)	158	158	149	149
Fish (wet, fried)	18	17	18	17
Licenced premises				
clubs	81	81	81	81
Food manufacture	3	3	3	3
Poultry processing	1	1	1	1
	<u>382</u>	<u>382</u>	<u>361</u>	<u>360</u>

Poultry Inspection

There is still only one poultry processing plant in the district and this continued to operate in a satisfactory manner. Owing to commercial pressures the processing of live poultry has again decreased but the premises continue an extensive trade in game. The plant manager is responsible for inspection and the Council's staff make random checks and advise when called upon.

Below are details relating to table poultry, but in addition the plant processed some 24,250 game birds during the year.

(1)	Number of processing plants	1
(2)	Total number of birds processed during the year	530
(3)	Types of birds processed	Turkeys, Capons, Hens
(4)	Percentage of birds rejected as unfit for consumption	1.89%
(5)	Weight of poultry condemned as unfit for consumption	57 lbs.

Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed (if known)	4,138	160	30	2,809	9,944	
Number inspected	4,138	160	30	2,809	9,944	
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis & Cysticerci</u>						
Whole carcases condemned	1	2		8	26	
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.	669	48	10	81	609	
% of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	16.19	31.25	33.33	3.17	6.39	
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>						
Whole carcases condemned						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned					192	
% of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis					1.93	
<u>Cysticercosis</u>						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	8					
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	8					
Generalised and totally condemned						

SECTION 'E'

H O U S I N G

Council Houses

The following is a list of houses erected by the Council:-

Under the Housing Acts

Pre-war	899
Post-war	1,201
Others	17
	<hr/>
	2,117
	<hr/>

At the end of the year outstanding applications for Council house accommodation numbered 619.

There were 18 dwellings under construction at the end of the year in Thorpe.

Private Houses

As a result of action under the Housing Act, 1957 Demolition Orders were made in respect of 47 properties and Closing Orders in respect of 4 others.

During the year a number of properties were repaired to a good standard as a result of informal action. This was achieved mainly by consultation with owners, when applying for Improvement Grants.

Qualification Certificates

Towards the end of the year 7 applications were received for qualification certificates under the Housing Act, 1969. One certificate was issued whilst 6 were delayed due to outstanding works of repair. It is apparent that the number of applications will increase in 1971 as the provisions of the Act become more widely appreciated.

SECTION 'F'

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Measles

One hundred and ninety-four cases of measles were notified during the year compared with 53 last year. Immunisation against this complaint is now readily available and there is no doubt that it is effective in reducing the incidence of the disease, which in an unmodified form is frequently associated with severe complications particularly those involving the ears and the chest, as well as encephalitis. It should also be emphasised that the vaccine in use now is a safe vaccine. Parents should be encouraged to arrange for their children to be immunised either by doctors from the Public Health Department or by general practitioners.

Whooping Cough

14 cases were notified compared with 2 last year. The complaint is now seldom a serious one and immunisation must be responsible for this improved situation. Children with a history of repeated convulsions, however, should not be given whooping cough immunisation although they can be immunised against diphtheria and tetanus.

Scarlet Fever

12 cases were notified compared with 8 last year. Whilst scarlet fever itself is seldom a dangerous disease in this country, the germ which causes it is the haemolytic streptococcus and cannot be ignored, as both rheumatic fever and kidney disease can result from an infection which may be associated with a rash as in scarlet fever, but may merely cause a severe sore throat.

Food Poisoning

There were 14 cases of this complaint notified during the year compared with 2 last year.

Infective Jaundice

95 cases were notified compared with 7 last year and 6 the year before. This complaint can be a most debilitating one and largely because of the long incubation period of about a month, it is very difficult to trace the source of any particular case.

The increase in the number of cases above those of recent years was due to an outbreak at Little Plumstead Hospital. The outbreak was dealt with and controlled by, among other measures, injections of gamma globulin into susceptible patients and members of the staff.

Dysentery (Sonne)

There was one case of sonne dysentary.

Immunisation Schedule

The schedule of immunisation in Norfolk County Council Child Health Clinics and Schools is now the following:-

Immunisation against whooping cough, diphtheria and tetanus (the triple injection) at 4 months, 6 months and 1 year. Poliomyelitis vaccine is given by mouth at the same time as those injections. The increased spacing of injections eliminates the need to give a boosting injection at 18 months to 2 years while retaining the same efficacy.

We carry out measles vaccination after first birthday. 'Booster' injections against diphtheria and tetanus with poliomyelitis immunisation by mouth are given at school entry and another tetanus injection and polio immunisation on leaving school.

Immunisation against tuberculosis or B.C.G. vaccination is carried out, after testing whether the individual child requires it, for third-year pupils at Secondary Schools.

Immunisation against rubella or German measles, is now carried out for 13 year old girls. The purpose of this immunisation is different from that of the others. The infection is not serious for the patient, but when it occurs in a pregnant woman damage may be caused to the foetal heart, eyes, ears, or brain. Thus in this country immunisation is offered only to females and is preferably given before reaching child bearing age. It is not recommended after pregnancy has commenced.

Incidence of infectious diseases (excluding T.B.)
during the last five years

	<u>1966</u>	<u>1967</u>	<u>1968</u>	<u>1969</u>	<u>1970</u>
Measles, excluding rubella	320	234	267	53	194
Dysentery, amoebic or bacillary	25	4	-	151	1
Scarlet Fever	15	39	18	8	12
Whooping Cough	31	36	1	2	14
Infective jaundice	3	6	6	7	95
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-
Tetanus	-	-	-	-	-
Acute meningitis	2	-	-	-	1
Acute encephalitis, infective	-	-	-	-	-
" " post infectious	-	-	-	-	-
Opthalmia neonatorum	-	-	-	-	-
Acute poliomyelitis, paralytic	-	-	-	-	-
" " non paralytic	-	-	-	-	-
Leptospirosis	-	-	-	-	-
Paratyphoid fever	-	-	-	-	-
Typhoid fever	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	3	1	4	2	14
Malaria	-	-	-	-	-
Plague	-	-	-	-	-
Cholera	-	-	-	-	-
Anthrax	-	-	-	-	-
Smallpox	-	-	-	-	-
Typhus Fever	-	-	-	-	-
Relapsing Fever	-	-	-	-	-
Yellow Fever	-	-	-	-	-

TUBERCULOSIS - NEW CASES NOTIFIED DURING 1970

	<u>Respiratory</u>		<u>Meninges & C.N.S.</u>		<u>Other</u>		<u>Total</u>
	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	
Under 5 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 to 14 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 to 24 years	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
25 to 44 years	2	1	-	-	-	1	4
45 to 64 years	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
65 years and over	1	1	-	-	-	-	2
Age unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	<u>4</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>8</u>

TUBERCULOSIS NUMBER OF CASES ON REGISTER AT END OF 1970

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Pulmonary	112	104	216
Non-Pulmonary	5	12	17
	<u>117</u>	<u>116</u>	<u>233</u>

DETAILS OF NEW CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS FOR LAST FIVE YEARS

(Excluding Inward Transfers from other Districts)

		<u>1966</u>	<u>1967</u>	<u>1968</u>	<u>1969</u>	<u>1970</u>
Pulmonary	M	8	2	-	3	4
	F	10	-	3	3	2
Non-Pulmonary	M	1	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	1	1	2
		<u>20</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>8</u>

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

Part I of the Act

1. Inspection for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

	Number on Register	Number of <u>Inspections</u>	Number of written <u>notices</u>	Number of Occupiers <u>prosecuted</u>
(i)Factories in which sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	12	-	-	-
(ii)Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authorities	96	-	-	-
(iii)Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authorities	11	-	-	-
	<u>119</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found:

<u>Particulars</u>	<u>Found</u>	<u>Remedied</u>	<u>To H.M. Inspector</u>	<u>By H.M. Inspector</u>	<u>Number of cases in which prose- cutions were instituted</u>
Want of Cleanliness (S1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences(S7):					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defect- ive	-	-	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

PART VIII OF THE ACT

OUTWORK - (SECTIONS 113 and 134)

Section 133

Section 134

<u>Nature of Work</u>	<u>No. of outworkers in August list required by Section 152</u>	<u>No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council</u>	<u>No. of Prosecutions for failure to supply lists</u>	<u>No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises</u>	<u>Notices served</u>	<u>Prosecutions</u>
Wearing - (Making etc. (Cleaning and Apparel (Washing	9	-	-	-	-	-
Brush Making	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cosagues, Christmas Crackers, Christmas Stockings, etc.	5	-	-	-	-	-
14	-	-	-	-	-	-

